GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4309
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2007
ORGANIC FARM PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies engaged in organic farming business in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether any criteria and terms and conditions have been fixed by the Government for conducting business in organic farming;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some of these companies are reported to have been violating the said norms;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken against the erring companies; and

(g) the number of laboratories engaged in testing organic farm products in the country, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): As per information received by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry there are 711 certified organic projects, which include farms, processing units and traders in 17 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir and Chhattisgarh.

(b) & (c) : There is no standards prescribed for organic products for domestic market. However, organic products for export are required to be certified by an accredited Inspection and certification agency under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).

(d) to (f) : No such report has come to the notice of Government.

(g) : As per NPOP, any ISO 17025 accredited laboratory can test the organic products, if required. However, the National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL) has not accredited any testing laboratory for testing of organic farm products. However, it has accredited 56 laboratories of the country for testing of food and agricultural products. State-wise number of such laboratories are as under:-

State	No. of Labs Accredited	State	No. of Labs Accredited
Andhra Pradesh	05	Madhya Pradesh	04
Delhi	09	Maharashtra	10
Gujarat	01	Punjab	02
Haryana	04	Tamil Nadu	03
Jammu & Kashmir	01	Uttar Pradesh	03
Karnataka	06	West Bengal	03
Kerala	05		